

1. A communications unit comprising:

- a) a first wireless transceiver port operable to communicate with a first wireless transceiver operable to conduct wireless communications with a wireless base station; and
  - b) a first expansion interface in communication with said first wireless transceiver port and operable to communicate with a second communications unit on a plurality of communications channels, to permit said second communications unit to access the first wireless transceiver.
2. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to conduct communications with the second communications unit on time multiplexed channels.
  3. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said expansion interface is operable to conduct communications with the second communications unit on frequency multiplexed channels.
  4. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port and said first expansion interface are on a common base.
  5. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to conduct simultaneous communications with said second communications unit on said plurality of communications channels.
  6. The communications unit of claim 1 further comprising a first communications appliance interface operable to communicate with at least one of the first wireless transceiver and said first expansion interface.

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7. The communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first communications appliance interface includes an analog telephone interface.
8. The communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first wireless transceiver port, said first communications appliance interface and said first expansion interface are contained within a common base.
9. The communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion interface and said first communications appliance interface are selectively operable to use said first wireless communications interface.
10. The communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to simultaneously support independent communications on said first appliance interface and with the wireless transceiver.
11. The communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion port is programmable by commands received at said communications appliance interface.
12. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion port is programmable by commands received from at least one of said first wireless interface and said second communications unit.
13. The communications unit of claim 12 wherein said first expansion port is programmable to cause said first wireless transceiver port to selectively communicate with one of a plurality of communications units operable to communicate with said first expansion transceiver.
14. The communications unit of claim 12 wherein said first communications appliance port is programmable by commands received from a communications appliance in communication with said first communications appliance port.

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15. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface comprises a bus interface.
16. The communications unit of claim 15 wherein said bus interface includes a Pulse Code Modulation bus interface.
- 5 17. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port includes a receptacle operable to receive and hold a wireless telephone.
18. The communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port is operable to communicate with a data interface on a wireless telephone.
19. The communications interface of claim 1 wherein said expansion interface is operable to communicate with a plurality of other communications units.
20. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a processor circuit programmed to effect communications between said first wireless transceiver port and said first expansion interface.
21. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a communications appliance interface, said processor circuit being operable to effect communications between said first wireless transceiver port, said first expansion interface and said communications appliance interface.
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22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to receive dialed digits from said communications appliance interface and communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver port to cause a transceiver in communication with said first wireless transceiver port to dial said dialed digits on a wireless network.
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23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to a change in the rate at which dialed digits are received at said communications appliance interface.

5 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to expiry of a timeout period after entry of said dialed digits at said communications appliance.

10 25. A system for providing multiple access to a wireless transceiver, the system comprising:

5 25 a) a plurality of communications units, at least one of which includes:

15 i) a first wireless transceiver port operable to communicate with a first wireless transceiver operable to conduct wireless communications with a wireless base station; and

20 ii) a first expansion interface in communication with said first wireless transceiver port and operable to communicate with said plurality of communications units on a plurality of communications channels, to permit said plurality of communications units to access the first wireless transceiver.

25 26. The system of claim 25 wherein each of said communications units comprises a communications appliance interface operable to communicate with said first wireless transceiver port.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein at least some of the communications units have respective wireless transceiver ports operable to be accessed by one of said communications appliance interfaces.

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28. The system of claim 27 wherein any of said communications appliance interfaces can access any of said wireless transceivers, through respective expansion interfaces on respective communications units on which said any of said communications appliances are located and respective communications units on which said wireless transceivers are located.
29. The system of claim 27 wherein any of said communications units is operable to receive programming information from other communications units to configure said any of said communications units to selectively make its wireless transceiver port and its communications appliance port communicate with a wireless transceiver port or a communications appliance port of at least one other of said plurality of communications units.
30. A method of providing multiple access to a wireless transceiver, comprising supporting communications through a first expansion interface, on one of a plurality of communications channels, between a first wireless transceiver port of a first communications unit and a second communications unit, where said first wireless transceiver port is operable to communicate with a first wireless transceiver operable to conduct wireless communications with a wireless base station.
31. The method of claim 30 wherein supporting communications comprises conducting communications with the second communications unit on time multiplexed channels.
32. The method of claim 30 wherein supporting communications comprises conducting communications with the second communications unit on frequency multiplexed channels.
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33. The method of claim 30 wherein supporting communications comprises supporting communications between said first wireless transceiver port and said first expansion interface within a common base.

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34. The method of claim 30 wherein supporting communications comprises conducting simultaneous communications with said second communications unit on said plurality of communications channels.
35. The method of claim 30 further comprising conducting communications between a first communications appliance interface and at least one of the first wireless transceiver and said first expansion interface.
36. The method of claim 35 further comprising conducting communications with a telephone in communication with said first communications appliance interface.
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37. The method of claim 35 further comprising selecting which of said first expansion interface and said first communications appliance interface are to use said first wireless communications interface.
38. The method of claim 35 further comprising simultaneously supporting independent communications with said first appliance interface and with said wireless transceiver.
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39. The method of claim 35 further comprising programming said first expansion port by commands received at said communications appliance interface.
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40. The method of claim 30 further comprising programming said first expansion port by commands received from at least one of said first wireless interface and said second communications unit.
41. The method of claim 40 further comprising programming said first expansion port to cause said first wireless interface to selectively communicate with one of a plurality of communications units operable to communicate with said first expansion port.
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42. The method of claim 40 further comprising programming said first communications appliance port by commands received from a

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communications appliance in communication with said first communications appliance port.

43. The method of claim 30 wherein supporting communications comprises supporting communications through a bus interface.

44. The method of claim 43 wherein supporting communications comprises supporting communications through a Pulse Code Modulation bus interface.

45. The method of claim 30 further comprising receiving and holding a wireless telephone in a receptacle.

46. The method of claim 30 further comprising causing said first wireless transceiver port to communicate with a data interface on a wireless telephone.

47. The method of claim 30 further comprising communicating with a plurality of other communications units.

48. The method of claim 30 further comprising receiving dialed digits from a communications appliance interface and communicating said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver port to cause a transceiver in communication with said first wireless transceiver port to dial said dialed digits on a wireless network.

49. The method of claim 48 further comprising communicating said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to a change in the rate at which dialed digits are received at said communications appliance interface.

50. The method of claim 49 further comprising communicating said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to expiry of a timeout period after entry of said dialed digits at said communications appliance.

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